



Fact Sheet

US Army Engineer
Research and Development Center
Waterways Experiment Station

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Seal Coats for Asphalt Pavements

Purpose: Design and evaluation of various seal coat materials for asphalt pavements.

Background: Seal coats are used to extend the useful life of asphalt pavements. Seal coats can include surface treatments, slurry seals, micro-surfacing, fuel-resistant sealers, rejuvenators, and other surfacing materials. These coatings do not add any significant structural capacity to the pavement system, but they do extend the life of the pavement by protecting it from weathering or solvent intrusion, provide an improved surface texture, or renew aged asphalt cement. The Airfields and Pavements Division (APD) of the Geotechnical Laboratory at the U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (WES) has had a great deal of experience with various types of seal coats. WES has developed and evaluated various mixtures and formulations of the various seal coat materials. Many of these materials have been evaluated in the laboratory and in field studies throughout the U.S.

Facts: The WES has been directly involved in various aspects of research with these types of coatings for many years. The APD has been involved in the construction of several test sections that evaluated mixture design, construction methods, and various other aspects of the respective seal coats that effect field performance. WES has developed guide specifications and other technical publications concerning seal coat materials. WES has the capability for material evaluation and can provide technical assistance for all phases of field construction.



Point of Contact: Contact Mr. James E. Shoenberger for more information regarding seal coats, at (601) 634-3553 or e-mail at shoenbj@wes.army.mil. General information on WES is available on the web site at <http://www.wes.army.mil>.